an extent of 4,000 acres of Reserved Forest. The applications for assignment were rejected by the Tahsildar on the ground that the field has not been surveyed. The question of survey of the unreserved bits of the field is now being examined by the Collector in consultation with the Forest department."

Purchase of ink bottles

* 1814 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the concerns from which ink bottles are bought for use in Government Departments ; and

(*b*) the number of ink bottles bought in 1953 and the cost thereof."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" A statement [a] is placed on the table of the house."

Fire outbreaks in Tindivanam taluk

* 1815 *Q.*—SRI M. VENUGOPALA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many cases of outbreaks of fire took place in Tindivanam taluk during 1953–54 ;

(*b*) whether any fire accident took place in Pathirapuliyur village, Tindivanam taluk, in 1953–54;

(*c*) if so, the extent of damage caused to property; and

(*d*) whether any relief was given to the victims of the fire accidents?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) During 1953–54 six cases of outbreaks of fire took place in Tindivanam taluk

" (*b*) No, Sir.

" (*c*) & (*d*) Do not arise."

Maternity and Child Health Centres, Malabar

* 1816 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Maternity and Child Health Centres there are in Malabar under the Malabar District Board; and

(*b*) the total grant given by the Government for these institutions.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Fifteen, Sir.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 1220 infra.

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"(b) A grant of Rs. 4,978-11-3 has been sanctioned for the year 1953-54 towards the maintenance of these centres."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Malabar District Board has made any request to the Government to sanction more money for starting maternity and child health centres in Malabar and if so, whether the Government will consider the question sympathetically?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is proposed to permit the opening of three more centres during 1955-56 in Thirukandiyur, Badagara and Kunjurmangalam. Two of the centres to be opened in backward areas with the help of the Government of India will be opened in Malabar district."

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" Sir, may I know whether the Government have received any complaint from the South Malabar district that no centre has been allotted for the area covering about five or six taluks of the district and no maternity ward is proposed to be opened this year in South Malabar?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir."

Executive officers for panchayats

* 1817 *Q.*—SRI S. RAMALINGAM (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) how many class I and class II panchayats in the State have executive officers;

(b) whether any panchayats in Malabar represented that they do not want executive officers; and

(c) if so, how many and what action has been taken on such representations?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (a) There are 279 class I panchayats and 26 class II panchayats in the State, having executive officers.

" (b) Yes, Sir.

" (c) Five panchayats. Their requests were not complied with."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" 1953-ம் வருஷத்தில் இங்கே நடந்த ஜில்லா பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டுகளுடைய தலைவர்கள் மகாநாட்டில் 'எக்ஸிக்யூடிவ்' ஆபீஸர்களையே எடுத்துவிடவேண்டுமென்று தீர்மானம் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதற்கு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள், இதற்காக ஒரு கமிட்டியை சர்க்கார் ஏற்படுத்த உத்தேசித்திருப்பதாகவும், இந்தக் கமிட்டியை ஏற்படுத்தியவுடன் அது விஷயம் கவனிக்கப்படும் என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். அந்தக் கமிட்டி அமைக்கப்பட்டுவிட்டதா? இந்த எக்ஸிக்யூடிவ் ஆபீசர்களை எடுத்துவிட சர்க்கார் எப்போது முடிவு செய்யும் என அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—"நோட்டீஸ் வேண்டும்."